WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for delivering digital video from a server to a client, comprising the steps

2 of:

3 transmitting one or more digital streams to said client, said one or more digital

4 streams comprising at least a portion of video and audio information, wherein

5 transmitting said one or more digital streams consumes bandwidth between

6 said server and said client;

7 receiving a signal indicating that audio information is not to be sent to said client;

8 in response to said signal, said server ceasing transmission of said audio information

9 to said client and using bandwidth that would otherwise have been used to

10 send said audio information to said client to send other information to said

11 client.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of using at least some of the bandwidth to

2 send other information includes sending video information that has a higher quality

3 than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal.

1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein said step sending video information that has a higher

2 quality than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal includes sending

3 video frames at an increased frequency to said client.

1 4. The method of claim 2, wherein said step sending video information that has a higher

2 quality than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal includes sending

3   video information that has increased color depth than the video information sent prior

4   to receiving said signal.

1   5.   The method of claim 2, wherein said step sending video information that has a higher

2   quality than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal includes sending

3   video information that has increased pixel density than the video information sent

4   prior to receiving said signal.

1   6.   The method of claim 2, wherein said step sending video information that has a higher

2   quality than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal includes sending

3   video information that has improved quantization than the video information sent

4   prior to receiving said signal.

1   7.   The method of claim 1, wherein said step of using at least some bandwidth to send

2   other information includes sending closed-captioned information to said client.

1   8.   The method of claim 1, wherein audio and video information are transmitted to said

2   client in a single digital stream.

1   9.   The method of claim 1, wherein audio and video information are transmitted to said

2   client in different digital streams.

1   10.   A method for delivering digital video from a server to a client, comprising the steps

2   of:

3   transmitting one or more digital streams to said client, said one or more digital

4   streams comprising a plurality of types of information, wherein transmitting

5   said one or more digital streams consumes bandwidth between said server and

6   said client;

7   receiving a signal that requests a change that would reduce the bandwidth

8   requirements of a particular type of information of said plurality of types of

9   information;

10   in response to said signal, performing said change to said one or more digital streams

11   being sent to said client to reduce the bandwidth requirements of said

12   particular type of information and using bandwidth that would otherwise have

13   been previously required to transmit said particular type of information to said

14   client to transmit other information to one or more clients in a set of clients

15   that includes said client.

1   11.   The method of claim 10, wherein the plurality of types of information includes a

2   desired type of information and the step of using at least some of the bandwidth to

3   send other information includes sending said desired type of information at a higher

4   quality than the desired type of information sent prior to receiving said signal.

1   12.   The method of claim 10, wherein the plurality of types of information does not

2   include a desired type of information and the step of using at least some of the

3   bandwidth to send other information includes sending said desired type of

4   information.

1   13. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of using at least some of the bandwidth to

2   send other information includes sending video information that has a higher quality

3   than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal.

1   14. The method of claim 13, wherein said step sending video information that has a

2   higher quality than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal includes

3   sending video frames at an increased frequency to said client.

1   15. The method of claim 13, wherein said step sending video information that has a

2   higher quality than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal includes

3   sending video information that has increased color depth than the video information

4   sent prior to receiving said signal.

1   16. The method of claim 13, wherein said step sending video information that has a

2   higher quality than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal includes

3   sending video information that has increased pixel density than the video information

4   sent prior to receiving said signal.

1   17. The method of claim 13, wherein said step sending video information that has a

2   higher quality than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal includes

3   sending video information that has improved quantization than the video information

4   sent prior to receiving said signal.

1   18.   The method of claim 11, wherein said step of sending desired information that has a

2   higher quality than the desired information sent prior to receiving said signal includes

3   sending enhanced audio information.

1   19.   The method of claim 18, wherein said step of sending enhanced audio information is

2   accomplished by sending audio information that is recorded at a higher sampling rate.

1   20.   The method of claim 12, wherein said step of using at least some bandwidth to send

2   other information includes sending closed-captioned information to said client.

1   21.   The method of claim 10, wherein said plurality of types of information are

2   transmitted to said client in a single digital stream.

1   22.   The method of claim 10, wherein said plurality of types of information are

2   transmitted to said client in different digital streams.

1   23.   The method of claim 10, wherein said signal requests a reduction in the quality of

2   said particular type of information.

1   24.   The method of claim 10, wherein said signal requests a cessation of transmission of

2   said particular type of information.

1   25.   The method of claim 10, wherein said other information is sent only to said client.

1   26.   The method of claim 10, wherein said other information is sent to at least one client

2   other than said client.

1   27.   A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for

2   delivering digital video from a server to a client, wherein execution of the one or

3   more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more

4   processors to perform the steps of:

5   transmitting one or more digital streams to said client, said one or more digital

6   streams comprising at least a portion of video and audio information, wherein

7   transmitting said one or more digital streams consumes bandwidth between

8   said server and said client;

9   receiving a signal indicating that audio information is not to be sent to said client;

10   in response to said signal, said server ceasing transmission of said audio information

11   to said client and using bandwidth that would otherwise have been used to

12   send said audio information to said client to send other information to said

13   client.

1   28.   The computer-readable medium of claim 27, wherein the step of using at least some

2   of the bandwidth to send other information includes sending video information that

3   has a higher quality than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal.

1   29.   The computer-readable medium of claim 28, wherein said step sending video

2   information that has a higher quality than the video information sent prior to

3   receiving said signal includes sending video frames at an increased frequency to said

4   client.

1   30.   The computer-readable medium of claim 28, wherein said step sending video

2   information that has a higher quality than the video information sent prior to

3   receiving said signal includes sending video information that has increased color

4   depth than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal.

1   31.   The computer-readable medium of claim 28, wherein said step sending video

2   information that has a higher quality than the video information sent prior to

3   receiving said signal includes sending video information that has increased pixel

4   density than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal.

1   32.   The computer-readable medium of claim 28, wherein said step sending video

2   information that has a higher quality than the video information sent prior to

3   receiving said signal includes sending video information that has improved

4   quantization than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal.

1   33.   The computer-readable medium of claim 27, wherein said step of using at least some

2   bandwidth to send other information includes sending closed-captioned information

3   to said client.

1   34.   The computer-readable medium of claim 27, wherein audio and video information are

2   transmitted to said client in a single digital stream.

1   35.   The computer-readable medium of claim 27, wherein audio and video information are

2   transmitted to said client in different digital streams.

1   36.   A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for

2   delivering digital video from a server to a client, wherein execution of the one or

3   more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more

4   processors to perform the steps of:

5   transmitting one or more digital streams to said client, said one or more digital

6   streams comprising a plurality of types of information, wherein transmitting

7   said one or more digital streams consumes bandwidth between said server and

8   said client;

9   receiving a signal that requests a change that would reduce the bandwidth

10   requirements of a particular type of information of said plurality of types of

11   information;

12   in response to said signal, performing said change to said one or more digital streams

13   being sent to said client to reduce the bandwidth requirements of said

14   particular type of information and using bandwidth that would otherwise have

15   been previously required to transmit said particular type of information to said

16   client to transmit other information to one or more clients in a set of clients

17   that includes said client.

1   37.   The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein the plurality of types of

2   information includes a desired type of information and the step of using at least some

3   of the bandwidth to send other information includes sending said desired type of

4   information at a higher quality than the desired type of information sent prior to

5   receiving said signal.

1   38.   The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein the plurality of types of

2   information does not include a desired type of information and the step of using at

3   least some of the bandwidth to send other information includes sending said desired

4   type of information.

1   39.   The computer-readable medium of claim 37, wherein the step of using at least some

2   of the bandwidth to send other information includes sending video information that

3   has a higher quality than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal.

1   40.   The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein said step sending video

2   information that has a higher quality than the video information sent prior to

3   receiving said signal includes sending video frames at an increased frequency to said

4   client.

1   41.   The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein said step sending video

2   information that has a higher quality than the video information sent prior to

3   receiving said signal includes sending video information that has increased color

4   depth than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal.

1   42.   The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein said step sending video

2   information that has a higher quality than the video information sent prior to

3   receiving said signal includes sending video information that has increased pixel

4   density than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal.

1   43.   The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein said step sending video

2   information that has a higher quality than the video information sent prior to

3   receiving said signal includes sending video information that has improved

4   quantization than the video information sent prior to receiving said signal.

1   44.   The computer-readable medium of claim 37, wherein said step of sending desired

2   information that has a higher quality than the desired information sent prior to

3   receiving said signal includes sending enhanced audio information.

1   45.   The computer-readable medium of claim 44, wherein said step of sending enhanced

2   audio information is accomplished by sending audio information that is recorded at a

3   higher sampling rate.

1 46. The computer-readable medium of claim 38, wherein said step of using at least some

2 bandwidth to send other information includes sending closed-captioned information

3 to said client.

1 47. The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein said plurality of types of

2 information are transmitted to said client in a single digital stream.

1 48. The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein said plurality of types of

2 information are transmitted to said client in different digital streams.

1 49. The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein said signal requests a reduction

2 in the quality of said particular type of information.

1 50. The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein said signal requests a cessation

2 of transmission of said particular type of information.

1 51. The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein said other information is sent

2 only to said client.

1 52. The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein said other information is sent to

2 at least one client other than said client.